

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2004-161-W/S - ORDER NO. 2004-568
NOVEMBER 15, 2004

IN RE:	Application of Sherwood Utilities Company)	ORDER APPROVING
	for Approval to Transfer the Water/Sewer)	TRANSFER OF SYSTEM
	System of Sherwood Utilities Company to)	
	S.D. Utilities, Inc.)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Application of Sherwood Utilities Company (Sherwood or the Company) for approval to transfer the water/sewer system owned by Sherwood to S.D. Utilities, Inc. (SD).

Pursuant to the instructions of the Commission's Executive Director, Sherwood was required to publish a Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the Company's service area and to notify by letter all customers of the proposed transfer. Sherwood provided affidavits of publication and proof of service on the customers. No Protests or Petitions to Intervene were filed. Accordingly, Sherwood moves that we grant a waiver of the public hearing requirement of 26 S. C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-704 (Supp. 2003) and that we approve the proposed transfer, based on the written verified testimony of witnesses for the seller and the buyer. We hereby grant waiver of the public hearing, and based on the following cited testimony, we approve the transfer.

Robert W. Ashby, President of Sherwood, filed written verified testimony. Ashby states that Sherwood has sold both mobile home parks to SD. Ashby reasons that maintaining the utilities in conjunction with maintaining the parks results in more efficient and closer contact with the customers. Further, Ashby reasons that he is 71 years old and he wishes to retire.

William W. and Elizabeth N. Bartlett (the Bartletts), officers of SD, also filed written verified testimony. The Bartletts manage the day to day operations of SD, and they support the testimony of Robert Ashby. Further, a new performance bond has been posted by SD.

Accordingly, we grant the Certificate required by S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-704 (Supp. 2003), which requires that we find the transfer to be in the public interest. We believe that SD is fit, willing, and able to manage the day to day affairs of the utility in question. The transfer is approved.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

/s/
Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/
G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman
(SEAL)